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EXAMINER

DHARIA, PRABODH M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2673

DATE MAILED: 01/21/2004

16

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/730,066

Applicant(s)

HEMIA ET AL.

Examiner

Prabodh M Dharja

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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1. **Status:** Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on December 15, 2003 under amendments which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 1-18 are pending in this action.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Kikinis (5,220,521) in view of Bowen (5,644,338), Kim (6,397,078) and Shaanan et al. (6,332,084).

Regarding Claim 1, Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the first state into the second state by movement of a first portion of the electronic input device in relation to a second portion of the electronic input device in a first direction, and the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the second state into the third state by a sliding movement of a third portion of the electronic input device in a second direction being different than the first direction, and wherein in the second state at least part of the functionality

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of the electronic input device is available for a user, and in the third state the available functionality of the electronic input device is extended.

However, Bowen teaches the electronic input device (Col. 2, Lines 14-28) is configured to be moved from the first state into the second state by movement of a first portion of the electronic input device in relation to a second portion of the electronic input device in a first direction (Abstract, figure 1,5, Col. 2, Lines 24-28, Lines 55-59, Col. 14, Lines 30-36, Col. 2, Lines 55-62), and the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the second state into the third state by a sliding movement of a third portion of the electronic input device in a second direction being different than the first direction (Abstract, figure 4, Col. 13, Line 65 to Col. 14, Line 4, Col. 2, Lines 55-62), wherein in the second state at least part of the functionality of the electronic input device is available for a user (Abstract, Col. 2, Lines 55-62, figure 17, Col. 8, Lines 17-41, Col. 7, Lines 46-54), and in the third state the available functionality of the electronic input device is extended (figure 15,16, Col. 8, Lines 17-19, Lines 34-38).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Bowen teaching in teaching of Kikinis to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach wherein the electronic input device adopts a closed configuration in the first state, adopts a partly opened configuration in the second state, and adopts a fully opened configuration in the third state and wherein the electronic input device

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has a first state, a second state and third state; and wherein the flexible input means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state and in the second state and adopts an fully extended spatial configuration in the third state.

However, Kim teaches the electronic input device adopts a closed configuration in the first state (Col. 2, Lines 40-42, Col. 3, lines 4-6), adopts a partly opened configuration in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 47-51), and adopts a fully opened configuration in the third state (Col. 2, Line 62 to Col. 3, Line 3) and wherein: the electronic input device has a first state, a second state and third state (Col. 4, Lines 12-27); and wherein the flexible input means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state (Col. 2, Lines 40-42, Col. 3, lines 4-6), and in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 47-51), and adopts an fully extended spatial configuration in the third state (Col. 2, Line 62 to Col. 3, Line 3, Col. 4, Lines 12-27).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kim's teaching in teaching of Kikinis to be able to combine a telephone and a PDA in a compact, easy to use manner device which can make use of the PDA display both during operation of the device as a mobile telephone and as a PDA.

Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach the first state and in the second state the flexible input means has been retracted into the housing and the functionality of the flexible input means is unavailable for a user, and wherein the third state the flexible input means has been extracted

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from the housing by said sliding movement and the functionality of the flexible input means is available for a user.

However Shaanan et al. teaches the first state and in the second state the flexible input means has been retracted into the housing and the functionality of the flexible input means is unavailable for a user, and wherein the third state the flexible input means has been extracted from the housing by said sliding movement and the functionality of the flexible input means is available for a user (Col. 1, lines 29-43, Col. 2, Lines 11-33).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Shaanan et al. teaching in teaching of Kikinis to have Video and internet capabilities in a user-friendly configuration in a wireless telephone in a miniature form.

Regarding Claim 2, Kikinis teaches the flexible input means has an input surface having touch sensitive areas (Col. 2, Lines 17-20).

Regarding Claim 3, Kikinis teaches the extended spatial configuration is planar (Col. 2, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 4, Kikinis teaches the compacted spatial configuration is non-planar (Col. 2, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 5, Kikinis teaches the compacted spatial configuration the flexible input means is wound into a roll (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 6, Kikinis teaches for moving the flexible input means between the first and second configurations (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 7, Kikinis teaches the flexible input means is a keyboard (Col. 1, Lines 6,7, Lines 32,33).

4. Claims 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis (5,220,521) in view of Bowen (5,644,338), Kim (6,397,078) and Shaanan et al. (6,332,084) as applied to claims 1-7 above, and further in view of Kinya et al. (JP 4178684 A).

Regarding Claim 8, Kikinis modified by Bowen, Kim and Shaanan et al. teaches the input means is a keyboard (Col. 1, Lines 6,7, Lines 32,33,) and output means is a display (Col. 7, Lines 65,66).

However, Kikinis modified by Bowen, Kim and Shaanan et al. fails to teach the flexible input means is also a display.

However, Kinya et al. teaches the flexible input means is also a display (Page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 8-10).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kinya et al. teaching in teaching of Kikinis modified by Bowen, Kim and Shaanan et al. to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

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Regarding Claim 9, Kinya et al. teaches a flexible output means for outputting information; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the output means; wherein the input device has a first state and a second state; and the output means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state and adopts an extended spatial configuration in the second state (Page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 4-10).

Regarding Claim 10, Kinya et al. teaches the output means is a display (page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 6,7).

Regarding Claim 11, Kinya et al. teaches the output means is arranged parallel with the flexible input means so that the flexible input device has two states corresponding to the first and second states of both input means and output means (page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 4-11).

5. Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis (5,220,521) in view of Bowen (5,644,338), Kim (6,397,078), Shaanan et al. (6,332,084), and Kinya et al. (JP 4178684 A) as applied to claims 8-11 above, and further in view of Furuya et al. (JP 06164440 A).

Regarding Claim 12, Kikinis modified by Bowen, Kim, Shaanan et al. and Kinya et al. teaches the housing defining a space for accommodating flexible input means (Kikinis, Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 25-27) and the space for accommodating the output means a hinge (Kinya et al. page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 4-11).



However, Kikinis modified by Bowen, Kim, Shaanan et al. and Kinya et al. fails to teach foldingly connecting the housing defining to a hinge for an input and output device space.

However, Furuya et al. teaches foldingly connecting the housing defining to a hinge for an input and output device space (page 6, paragraph 9, page 7, paragraph 12).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Furuya et al. teaching in teaching of Kikinis modified by Bowen, Kim, Shaanan et al. and Kinya et al. to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

Regarding Claim 13, Kinya et al. teaches the electronic input device is a telecommunications device (page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 1-11).

Regarding Claim 14, Furuya et al. teaches two elements, which are foldable about a hinge between an open configuration and a closed configuration; a speaker located in one element, and a microphone in another element so that the electronic input device can be unfolded to separate the microphone and the speaker (page 6, paragraph 9).

Regarding Claim 15, Kinya et al. teaches a stop to resist opening the two elements of the input device over a certain maximum opening angle; and means for changing the maximum opening angle when the configuration of the device is changed between the compacted spatial configuration and the extended spatial configuration (page 8, paragraph 26, page 9, paragraph 29, 30).

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6. Claims 16,17,18, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinya et al. (JP 4178684 A) in view of Bowen (5,644,338), Kim (6,397,078) and Shaanan et al. (6,332,084).

Regarding Claims 16,17, Kinya et al. teaches a method for manufacturing of an electronic input device comprising: forming to the electronic input device a housing to define a space for accommodating a flexible input means; shaping the flexible input means into a compacted spatial configuration and inserting the flexible input means at least partially into the space so that the flexible input means maintains the compacted spatial configuration in a first state of the electronic input device (page 9, paragraph 32); adopts a partly extended spatial configuration in a second state of the electronic input device (page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32), and adopts a fully extended spatial configuration in a third state of the electronic input device (page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32).

However, Kinya et al. fails to teach the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the first state into the second state by movement of a first portion of the electronic input device in relation to a second portion of the electronic input device in a first direction, and the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the second state into the third state by a sliding movement of a third portion of the electronic input device in a second direction being different than the first direction, and wherein in the second state at least part of the functionality of the electronic input device is available for a user, and in the third state the available functionality of the electronic input device is extended.

However, Bowen teaches the electronic input device (Col. 2, Lines 14-28) is configured to be moved from the first state into the second state by movement of a first portion of the electronic input device in relation to a second portion of the electronic input device in a first direction (figure 1,5, Col. 2, Lines 24-28, Lines 55-59, Col. 14, Lines 30-36), and the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the second state into the third state by a sliding movement of a third portion of the electronic input device in a second direction being different than the first direction (Abstract, figure 4, Col. 13, Line 65 to Col. 14, Line 4, Col. 2, Lines 55-62), wherein in the second state at least part of the functionality of the electronic input device is available for a user (figure 17, Col. 8, Lines 17-41, Col. 2, Lines 55-62, Abstract, Col. 2, Lines 55-62, Col. 7, Lines 46-54), and in the third state the available functionality of the electronic input device is extended (figure 15,16, Col. 8, Lines 17-19, Lines 34-38).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Bowen teaching in teaching of Kinya et al. to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach wherein the electronic input device adopts a closed configuration in the first state, adopts a partly opened configuration in the second state, and adopts a fully opened configuration in the third state and wherein: the electronic input device has a first state, a second state and third state; and wherein the flexible input means adopts a

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compacted spatial configuration in the first state and in the second state and adopts an fully extended spatial configuration in the third state.

However, Kim teaches the electronic input device adopts a closed configuration in the first state (Col. 2, Lines 40-42, Col. 3, lines 4-6), adopts a partly opened configuration in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 47-51), and adopts a fully opened configuration in the third state (Col. 2, Line 62 to Col. 3, Line 3) and wherein: the electronic input device has a first state, a second state and third state (Col. 4, Lines 12-27); and wherein the flexible input means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state (Col. 2, Lines 40-42, Col. 3, lines 4-6), and in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 47-51), and adopts an fully extended spatial configuration in the third state (Col. 2, Line 62 to Col. 3, Line 3, Col. 4, Lines 12-27).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kim's teaching in teaching of Kikinis to be able to combine a telephone and a PDA in a compact, easy to use manner device which can make use of the PDA display both during operation of the device as a mobile telephone and as a PDA.

Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach the first state and in the second state the flexible input means has been retracted into the housing and the functionality of the flexible input means is unavailable for a user, and wherein the third state the flexible input means has been extracted from the housing by said sliding movement and the functionality of the flexible input means is available for a user.

However Shaanan et al. teaches the first state and in the second state the flexible input means has been retracted into the housing and the functionality of the flexible input means is unavailable for a user, and wherein the third state the flexible input means has been extracted from the housing by said sliding movement and the functionality of the flexible input means is available for a user (Col. 1, lines 29-43, Col. 2, Lines 11-33).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Shaanan et al. teaching in teaching of Kikinis to have Video and internet capabilities in a user-friendly configuration in a wireless telephone in a miniature form.

Regarding Claim 18, Kinya et al. teaches a method of an electronic input device presenting a user interface (page 9, paragraph 32), comprising the steps of: storing a flexible input means in a compacted spatial configuration within a housing of the electronic input device in a first state of the electronic input device (page 9, paragraph 32); extending the flexible input means out of the housing into one or more of a partly extended spatial configuration in a second state of the electronic input device (page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32), and a fully extended spatial configuration in a third state of the electronic input device (page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32), the partly and fully extended spatial configurations for receiving user input (page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32); and retrieving the flexible input means again into the compacted spatial configuration within the housing, for receiving user input (page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32).

However, Kinya et al. fails to teach the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the first state into the second state by movement of a first portion of the electronic input

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device in relation to a second portion of the electronic input device in a first direction, and the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the second state into the third state by a sliding movement of a third portion of the electronic input device in a second direction being different than the first direction, and wherein in the second state the flexible input means adopts a partly extended spatial configuration and at least part of the functionality of the electronic input device is available for a user, and in the third state the flexible input means adopts a fully extended spatial configuration and the available functionality of the electronic input device is extended.

However, Bowen teaches the electronic input device (Col. 2, Lines 14-28) is configured to be moved from the first state into the second state by movement of a first portion of the electronic input device in relation to a second portion of the electronic input device in a first direction (figure 1,5, Col. 2, Lines 24-28, Lines 55-59, Col. 14, Lines 30-36), and the electronic input device is configured to be moved from the second state into the third state by a sliding movement of a third portion of the electronic input device in a second direction being different than the first direction (Abstract, figure 4, Col. 13, Line 65 to Col. 14, Line 4, Col. 2, Lines 55-62), wherein in the second state at least part of the functionality of the electronic input device is available for a user (Abstract, figure 17, Col. 8, Lines 17-41, Col. 2, Lines 55-62, Col. 7, Lines 46-54), and in the third state the available functionality is extended (figure 15,16, Col. 8, Lines 17-19, Lines 34-38).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Bowen teaching in teaching of Kinya et al. to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach wherein the electronic input device adopts a closed configuration in the first state, adopts a partly opened configuration in the second state, and adopts a fully opened configuration in the third state and wherein: the electronic input device has a first state, a second state and third state; and wherein the flexible input means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state and in the second state and adopts an fully extended spatial configuration in the third state.

However, Kim teaches the electronic input device adopts a closed configuration in the first state (Col. 2, Lines 40-42, Col. 3, lines 4-6), adopts a partly opened configuration in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 47-51), and adopts a fully opened configuration in the third state (Col. 2, Line 62 to Col. 3, Line 3) and wherein: the electronic input device has a first state, a second state and third state (Col. 4, Lines 12-27); and wherein the flexible input means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state (Col. 2, Lines 40-42, Col. 3, lines 4-6), and in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 47-51), and adopts an fully extended spatial configuration in the third state (Col. 2, Line 62 to Col. 3, Line 3, Col. 4, Lines 12-27).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kim's teaching in teaching of Kikinis to be able to combine a telephone and a PDA in a compact, easy to use manner device which can make use of the PDA display both during operation of the device as a mobile telephone and as a PDA.

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Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating the input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42).

However, Kikinis fails to teach the first state and in the second state the flexible input means has been retracted into the housing and the functionality of the flexible input means is unavailable for a user, and wherein the third state the flexible input means has been extracted from the housing by said sliding movement and the functionality of the flexible input means is available for a user.

However Shaanan et al. teaches the first state and in the second state the flexible input means has been retracted into the housing and the functionality of the flexible input means is unavailable for a user, and wherein the third state the flexible input means has been extracted from the housing by said sliding movement and the functionality of the flexible input means is available for a user (Col. 1, lines 29-43, Col. 2, Lines 11-33).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Shaanan et al. teaching in teaching of Kikinis to have Video and internet capabilities in a user-friendly configuration in a wireless telephone in a miniature form.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments filed 07-30-2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues the cited references fail to teach the amended claims.

Examiner disagrees as they are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.



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8. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims 1,5,7,8,11,16-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is informed that all of the other additional cited references either anticipate or render the claims obvious. In order to not to be repetitive and exhaustive, the examiner did draft additional rejection based on those references.

### *Conclusion*

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Riddiford (6,587,675 B1) Hand-held computer and communications apparatus.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh Dharia whose telephone number is (703) 605-1231. The examiner can normally be reached Monday- Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached at (703) 305-4938. The fax number of the group is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

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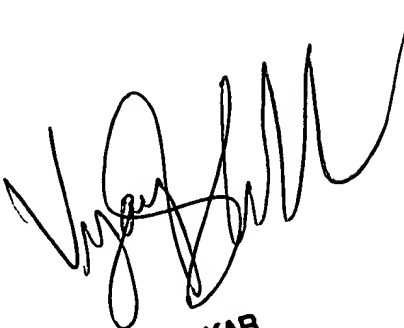
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January 16, 2004



VIJAY SHANKAR  
PRIMARY EXAMINER